

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, ENCOURAGING THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION ("PSC") TO SET MEANINGFUL ENERGY EFFICIENCY GOALS, INCLUDING A SPECIFIC PERCENTAGE GOAL, AND TO REQUIRE UTILITIES TO SHARE ENERGY CONSUMPTION DATA WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS; PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE CHAIR AND CLERK OF THE PSC AND FILING IN RELEVANT PSC DOCKETS; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Sponsored by Senator Nan H. Rich and
Commissioner Beam Furr)

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature passed the Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act ("FEECA") in 1980 to reduce peak electricity demand and energy consumption;

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature amended FEECA in 2008 to include an emphasis on cost-effective energy conservation measures;

WHEREAS, FEECA requires that the Florida Public Service Commission ("PSC") establish numeric energy conservation goals for Florida's largest utilities at least every five (5) years, and the 2019 FEECA proceedings before the PSC present an opportunity for substantial improvement to Florida's energy conservation goals;

WHEREAS, according to the American Council on an Energy-Efficient Economy ("ACEEE"), Florida's largest utilities have the second worst performance in the southeastern United States (consisting of Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee) in delivering energy conservation savings (measured as energy saved as a percentage of annual kilowatt sales to customers), with

1 an energy conservation saving rate of 0.09 percent based on 2016 and 2017 annual
2 electricity sales;

3 WHEREAS, in the same year, the ACEEE reported that the national energy
4 conservation savings average was 0.72 percent, eight (8) times higher than Florida, and
5 that the energy conservation rates in California, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and
6 Vermont were 18 - 37 times higher than Florida's;

7 WHEREAS, the Broward County Climate Change Action Plan aims for a
8 countywide reduction of greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions of eighty percent (80%)
9 below 2005 levels by the year 2050;

10 WHEREAS, energy use within the built environment, consisting of residential and
11 commercial buildings, is a significant contributor to countywide GHG emissions;

12 WHEREAS, energy conservation and efficiency programs that promote behavioral
13 and operational changes by residents and building owners can significantly reduce
14 energy demand from the built environment;

15 WHEREAS, the positive efforts undertaken by utilities and building owners in
16 Florida to expand renewable energy installations would be even more effective in meeting
17 electricity demand if that demand were first reduced through energy conservation;

18 WHEREAS, energy conservation is a low-cost resource that helps residential and
19 commercial building owners use less energy, save money on bills, and reduce GHG
20 emissions;

21 WHEREAS, by reducing electricity demand, energy conservation reduces the
22 need for the construction of new power plants and the operation of existing fossil fuel
23 plants, lowering not only carbon pollution but also other air pollutants that have a negative
24 effect on public health;

1 WHEREAS, as temperatures increase and extreme heat waves become more
2 common, the struggle of low and moderate income households to afford electricity will
3 become more difficult, further straining household budgets or forcing residents to endure
4 the heat and humidity without air conditioning;

5 WHEREAS, the PSC could require that utilities provide Florida's local governments
6 with anonymized energy consumption data at the census block level, allowing cities and
7 counties to more effectively design and implement their own energy conservation
8 programs for residents and businesses and assisting Broward County in meeting its GHG
9 reduction goals; and

10 WHEREAS, improved energy conservation goals will lead to more robust energy
11 efficiency and conservation programs and options for residential and commercial
12 customers, thereby providing economic, environmental, and public health benefits, NOW,
13 THEREFORE,

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15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
16 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

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18 Section 1. Broward County urges the PSC to set meaningful numeric energy
19 conservation goals during current FEECA proceedings in order to put Broward County
20 and the State of Florida on a path to significant economic, environmental, and public
21 health benefits.

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23 Section 2. The meaningful numeric energy conservation goals should include
24 an annual goal for Florida's largest utilities equal to, or greater than, 0.33 percent of the

1 previous year's electricity sales in kilowatt-hours which, according to the ACEEE, is the
2 average annual energy savings rate for utilities in the southeastern United States,
3 excluding Florida.

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5 Section 3. Broward County further urges the PSC, as part of the FEECA
6 proceeding, to require Florida electric utilities to share with local governments
7 anonymized energy consumption data at the census block level to allow cities and
8 counties to effectively design and implement their own energy conservation programs for
9 residents and businesses.

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11 Section 4. Broward County urges the PSC to require that most, if not all, of the
12 numeric energy conservation goals be met through programs to assist low and moderate
13 income households.

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15 Section 5. The Broward County Board of County Commissioners hereby directs
16 the County Administrator to provide copies of this Resolution to the Chair and Clerk of the
17 PSC and authorizes filing of this Resolution in FEECA proceedings before the PSC,
18 including PSC Docket No. 2019-0015 relating to Commission Review of Numeric
19 Conservation Goals.

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21 Section 6. Severability.

22 If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid
23 portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this
24 Resolution. If any court determines that this Resolution, in whole or in part, cannot be

1 legally applied to any individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance, such
2 determination will not affect the applicability of this Resolution to any other individual,
3 group, entity, property, or circumstance.

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5 Section 7. Effective Date.

6 This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

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8 ADOPTED this day of , 2019.

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10 Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:
11 Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

12
13 By /s/ Michael C. Owens 05/30/19
14 Michael C. Owens (date)
15 Senior Assistant County Attorney

16 By /s/ Maite Azcoitia 05/30/19
17 Maite Azcoitia (date)
18 Deputy County Attorney

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